

Southeast Region

Hurricane Katrina Report

September 6, 2005



The Type 3 Incident Management Team based at Lacombe, Louisiana, at the Big Branch NWR and headquarters for the Southeast Louisiana Complex continues to expand its community service activities (clearing roads) in the local community, Gulf Coast, and the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain. A local hospital in the Lacombe area is running out of food and supplies and the Service will begin supporting that facility's staff and patients with meals today.

Moreover, the Red Cross has 100 workers in the area without adequate support, and we expect to move those Red Cross workers to the Lacombe site to begin providing support services for them (food, showers, etc.).

On Monday, the Service began participation in a joint effort with Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) to aid search and rescue efforts in the St. Bernard Parish and 9th Ward. The Service dispatched seven boats — each one accompanied by a refuge law enforcement officer and a non-law enforcement employee. This operation is based at the Mandalay NWR in Houma, Louisiana, where shelter, showers, and cots are being provided. Their mission was to conduct house-by-house searches for victims. By 5 pm CDT, they had cleared their assigned two quadrant (approximately two to four city blocks) area. Additional smaller boats (14 x 16 jon boats) are being dispatched today to assist in this mission. FWS Region 4 staff were joined by five additional FWS Region 2 refuge law enforcement officers.

FWS Region 4 OLE officers are continuing to work with the FEMA search and rescue efforts.

Additional information

Media contact coordination is being handled by the Regional Office of External Affairs 404/679 7287.

USFWS/Bud Oliveira



Eden Isles, Louisiana, close to Slidell

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Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Louisiana